

DEFENSE LOGISTICS AGENCY

HEADQUARTERS 8725 JOHN J. KINGMAN ROAD FORT BELVOIR, VIRGINIA 22060-6221

October 15, 2019

Mr. Donald O'Connor East Coast Utility P.O. Box 3572 Williamsburg, VA 23187

Mr. O'Connor,

On October 7, 2019, we received your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request dated October 7, 2019 and assigned it case number DLA-LANDM-2020-000072.

We process all requests on a "First-In, First-Out" queue basis. The Department of Defense has established three queues for FOIA requests: Expedited, Simple, and Complex. Your request has been assigned to the Complex queue. Your FOIA request is considered Complex per DoD Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Program, DoD Directive 5400.07, Section 6.2(b) which states that if there is a "... need to search for and collect the requested records responsive from field offices or other establishments that are separate from the office processing the FOIA request."

In addition, due to an extremely heavy FOIA request workload, over 400 cases, we are unable to complete your request or appeal within the statutory time requirement. To demonstrate our commitment, our team is working additional hours to address this backlog of FOIA requests and appeals. In fairness to the general public, we make every effort to treat all requesters equally. Accordingly, responses are made on a first-in, first-out basis and controlled in response queues. We anticipate a response to you no later than December 16, 2019.

Additionally, the current Fee Limit you identified (\$150.00) will support 3 hours of professional search and review fees at a rate of \$48.00 per hour for FOIA Request support. If the DLA FOIA Office projects that your FOIA Request will require more than 5 hours of professional search and review fees we will send you a Fee Estimate for your review and agreement prior to processing your FOIA Request.

If you have questions or wish to inquire about the status of your request, please feel free to contact me via e-mail at <u>Tyler.Stewart@dla.mil</u> or via telephone at 614-692-9066. Please reference case number DLA-LANDM-2020-000072 in all correspondence.

Sincerely,

TYLER J. STEWART FOIA Specialist